

The 55th Annual Synod and Budget Conference of the ELCE; 16th and 17th October 2009

“*Growing in Grace and Knowledge of Our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ*” (2 Peter 3:18) was the theme for this year’s Synod. The worship services and the Synod Essay (given by Revd Jon Ehlers) focused on this theme, providing many opportunities for the Holy Spirit through Word and Sacrament to generate growth of our faith and His church. In the concluding comments of his essay, Pastor Ehlers said:

“Church Growth? As Lutherans we need not shy away from the Biblical ideals of growth and bearing fruit organically coming from our justification in Jesus Christ. In fact, they are so interconnected with the proclamation of the Gospel and the administration of the Sacraments that they should naturally happen. We need not constantly gaze at our navels to see if growth is taking place, for if we are abiding in Christ it will happen. Perhaps we should quit worrying about growth and how it happens, because that places the emphasis on us and what we do to bring growth about, and begin letting the Holy Spirit work through the proclamation of Law and Gospel to do His thing, bring growth to the life of the Church and the individual believer. And may we all *“Grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To Him be the glory both now and to the day of eternity. Amen.”* (2 Pt. 3:18).

This year’s synod was wonderfully hosted by the members of Holy Trinity, Tottenham. The closing service was especially moving as we witnessed the ordination of Gordon Naumann (called to St. David, Cardiff), and Mark Smith from the Lutheran Church Canada (called by the ELCE as a missionary at large, to serve St. Timothy’s, Sunderland).



The Pastors of the ELCE at Synod

ELECTIONS: (newly elected members are in bold print)

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

Revd Reg Quirk, Chairman; **Revd Jon Ehlers, Chairman elect***; **Forbes Morris, Lay Councillor**; **Revd George Samiec, Pastoral Councillor**; Mike Jennings, Lay Councillor, Revd Jon Ehlers, Vice-Chairman; Reiner Thielke, Lay Councillor; Doreen Rosser, Secretary

COMMITTEE ON WORSHIP

Revd David Jackson ; **Paul Simons**; Revd Joel Humann; Adria Jackson; Kay Kinnear

CONGREGATIONAL LIFE COMMITTEE

Paul Hill; Revd Kurt Van Fossan; Doreen Rosser; Revd Sunday Effiong ;Barbara Higgins

BOARD FOR OVERSEAS MISSION

Revd Arno Bessel; **Helena Simons**; Cynthia Palmer; Ukoh Obot; Sheri Land

NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE

Mike Jennings; Maria Credé; Revd Graham Jenks

BOARD FOR YOUTH

Sophie Quirk; **Cecilia Flor**; Revd Claudio Flor; Rosana Kriger;
Revd Kurt Van Fossan

SALARY REVIEW COMMITTEE

Janet Jenks, Pastor's Wife (full term); Yvonne Quirk (1 year); Revd Claudio Flor; **Adria Jackson resigned;** Maria Credé ; ohn Peters

COMMISSION ON THEOLOGICAL AND SOCIAL CONCERNS

The Chairman of the ELCE and the Westfield House staff are permanent members of the CTSC – nominated by Barnes Conference and elected for a 2-year term

John Halton – ratified at Synod

Brian Williams

Revd David Jackson

Executive Council Report (Doreen Rosser)